

Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07 AGRE-00 AID-05
CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00
DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01
INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
NSF-01 OES-06 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 SAL-01 /119 W
-----201209Z 113421 /15

P 201130Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5770
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 0179

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLOS
SUBJECT: LOS: EVENSEN MEETING

REF: (A) STATE 3591, (B) STATE 9443

1. CHARGE 19 JAN CONVEYED U.S. VIEWS CONTAINED REFTELS
TO DIRECTOR OF JURIDICAL AND CONSULAR AFFAIRS MOHAMED
MEDJAD, CHIEF OF ALGERIAN LOS NEGOTIATING TEAM. HIS
ASSISTANTS, MESLOUB AND ALOUANE, CURRENTLY IN CAIRO FOR
ARAB REGIONAL LOS MEETING. (JAN 19 APPOINTMENT FIRST
WE WERE ABLE TO OBTAIN SINCE RECEIPT REFTELS.)

2. MEDJAD COURTEOUSLY BUT THOROUGHLY REBUTTED ALL U.S.
THESES. HE STATED SPECIFICALLY THAT GOA:

A. SUPPORTED BROAD COASTAL STATE COMPETENCE OVER
SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH BECAUSE OF IMPOSSIBILITY OF SEPARATING
PURE RESEARCH FROM RESEARCH DIRECTED AT RESOURCE
EXPLOITATION;

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B. DENIED THESES THAT ECONOMIC ZONE MUST BE HIGH
SEAS BECAUSE THIS PROPOSITION CONTRARY TO COASTAL
STATE SOVEREIGNTY; AND

C. DESIRED INTERNATIONAL AUTHORITY WITH WIDE
POWERS OVER DEEP SEABED MINING TO ENSURE RICHES
DISTRIBUTED AMONG THIRD WORLD.

3. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY ON PLANS TO ATTEND EVENSEN MEETING, MEDJAD REPLIED THAT GOA "NOT OVERWHELMED" BY PROPOSAL AND THAT IT WOULD BE DISCUSSED AT SUBSEQUENT MINISTRY MEETING. CHARGE EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE U.S. ATTACHED TO EVENSEN MEETING. MEDJAD SAID HE BELIEVED REGIONAL MEETINGS SUCH AS CURRENT ARAB MEETING IN CAIRO AND FUTURE AFRICAN AND "77" MEETING MORE APPROPRIATE WAY TO PROCEED, BUT INDICATED DECISION NOT YET TAKEN.

4. MEDJAD NOTED THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY IN PROCESS OF RETHINKING GOA POSITION ON ECONOMIC ZONE. HE EXPLAINED THAT HIS OFFICE HAD PREPARED TEXT OF NEW CONSTITUTION DRAFT ARTICLE DEALING WITH ECONOMIC ZONE AND HAD AFFIRMED SOVEREIGNTY OF ALGERIAN STATE OVER "RESOURCES ON OR IN ITS CONTINENTAL SHELF AND ECONOMIC ZONE." DURING COUNCIL OF MINISTERS REVIEW, HOWEVER, WORD "EXCLUSIVE" ADDED AND APPROVED CONSTITUTION ARTICLE NOW COVERS "EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE." MEDJAD SAID HE NOT SURE OF EXACT RAMIFICATIONS OF HIS CHANGE, BUT THAT "OBVIOUSLY THERE WILL BE SOME." HHKCOMMENT: GOA REJECTION OUR THESES EXPECTED. MEDJAD'S EMPHASIS ON NEED FOR OTHER MEETINGS OF THIRD WORLD GROUPINGS AND LACK OF ENTHUSIASM FOR EVENSEN SESSION SUGGESTS THAT ALGERIANS RELUCTANT ATTEND SESSION WHOSE NEGOTIATIONS AND COMPROMISES MIGHT PRODUCE RESULT IT WOULD NOT LIKE, AND THAT THEY PREFER FOLLOW ARAB, AFRICAN AND "77" ROUTE TO FIRM UP SUPPORT FOR HARD-LINE POSITIONS.LYNE
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Message Attributes

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